(b) The company wise number of pending cases of reconstitution is given below:

Name of the Oil Company	RO dealership	LPG distributorship
IOC	171	31
BPC	6	14
HPC	13	21
IBP	—	—
TOTAL	190	66

Permission for production of 'Gasohal'

†111. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL; Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation about granting permission for production of 'Gasohal', which is developed with sugarcane molasses, as an alternative to petrol;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken on the representation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) Government propose to take up pilot projects in UP and Maharashtra to ascertain the effects of using ethanol blended autofuel on the environment and to examine operational and financial aspects.

Slipping targets of oil production

112. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether ONGC has been continuously slipping on its oil production targets;

(b) what have been the targets and actual production in the past five years;

(c) whether the recovery rate at Bombay High is only about 25 per cent when similar oil fields elsewhere achieve 45-50 per cent; and

(d) whether Government have any proposal to allow global oil producers to takeover/participate in management?

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY); (a) and (b) The MOU targets and actual crude oil production of ONGC during the last five years i.e. from 1995-96 to 1999-2000 are as given below:—

(Figures in MMT)

Year	MOU target (*)	Actual Production (*)
1995-96	33.316	31.635
1996-97	31.092	28.686
1997-98	27.733	28.250
1998-99	28.101	26.385
1999-2000	25.800	24.648

* including condensate;

MOU: Memorandum of Understanding

MMT: Million Metric Tonne

Note: Above figures exclude the contribution from fields being operated by Joint Venture / Pvt. Parties.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

Backlog of LPG connections and dealers for oil companies

113. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the backlog of LPG connections and also the backlog of dealers for the oil companies; and

(b) the reason for the delays and whether it makes any sense for Government to appoint dealers when the sector will be totally deregulated in the next two years under which the oil firms would be allowed to appoint their own dealers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) and (b) The Government proposes to release around 1 crore connections by 31.12.2000 in order to liquidate the waiting list existing with distributors of Public Sector Oil